

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Thailand

**Post:** Bangkok

## Weekly Rice Price Update

### Report Categories:

Grain and Feed

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### Report Highlights:

TH9149 Domestic and export prices of white rice declined by 1.0 percent. Some quotations remained unchanged due to current uncertainty in rice supplies following typhoon Kitsana.

## Market Tone

**Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending Oct 5, 2009**

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
FWR 100 B	995	-	1,000	-	1,000	965	-	990	989
WR 100 B	510	-	535	-	530	525	510	522	529
PB 5%	570	-	590	-	600	570	560	578	578
WR 5%	485	-	510	-	510	500	480	497	503
WR 10%	475	-	-	-	500	490	-	488	492
WR 15%	445	-	-	-	-	475	-	460	465
WR 25%	410	-	-	-	-	420	-	415	416
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	290	-	300	-	300	305	-	299	299
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 33.30 baht/U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Despite the strengthening Thai baht to 33.2 baht/\$ (compared to 33.5 baht/\$ last week), domestic and export prices of white rice declined by 1.0 percent. Most recent enquiries of foreign buyers have reportedly not been finalized. Some quotations remained unchanged from the previous week's levels due to the uncertain impact of typhoon Kitsana on the Philippines and Vietnam. Meanwhile, the impact on Thai rice production will likely be marginal despite some short-term flooding of approximately 200,000 rai (32,000 hectares). Also, government intervention stocks of 6-7 million tons are expected to be gradually released before the peak of new-crop harvest in November.

The Government extended the mortgage scheme until October 15 in order to cushion price impact during the transition to the price insurance scheme. So far, 73 percent (2.8 million households) of farm households are registered for. Compensation will be based on the difference between insured prices and benchmarked prices which are expected to be calculated from average wholesales prices in Bangkok converted into the paddy equivalent.

## Rice Export Update

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Sep. 28 – Oct. 4, 2009 totaled 96,150 tons, down 20,498 tons from the previous week, and down 26,097 tons from the four-week moving average of 122,247 tons. Exports of white rice during Jan. 1 – Oct. 4, 2009 totaled 4,560,399 tons, as compared with 6,467,833 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – Sep. 25, 2009 amounted to 6,414,471 tons, down 22.6 percent from 8,297,813 tons in the previous year.

**Table 2: Weekly rice exports (excluding fragrant rice)**

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4 WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS % OF LAST YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	(%)
Jul 19	129,035	123,651	3,262	5,009	-34.9
Jul 26	99,059	109,042	3,361	5,198	-35.3
Aug 2	111,845	106,826	3,473	5,300	-34.5
Aug 9	114,776	113,679	3,587	5,421	-33.8
Aug 16	112,267	109,487	3,700	5,547	-33.3
Aug 23	126,240	116,282	3,826	5,693	-32.8
Aug 30	139,731	123,253	3,966	5,851	-32.2
Sep 6	105,702	120,985	4,071	5,988	-32.0
Sep 13	134,061	126,434	4,205	6,118	-31.3
Sep 20	142,128	130,406	4,348	6,246	-30.4
Sep 27	116,648	124,635	4,464	6,383	-30.1
Oct 4	96,150	122,247	4,560	6,468	-29.5

*Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.*

Source: Board of Trade of Thailand

**Table 3: Weekly private registered rice export sales**

Movement (MT)	Sep. 14-18	Sep. 21-25	Sep. 28 - Oct. 2
Weekly sales	103,493	76,689	65,936
4 week sum	513,682	493,246	425,887
4 week mov. avg.	128,421	123,312	106,472
Total weekly sales	4,772,846	4,849,535	4,915,471

End of report